CONCORDIA LIBRARIES

BiblioNEWS

Date December 5th 1990 Vol.1 No.3

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR SEL-MATES

The next person we will introduce to you is **Debra Palmer**. Many of you may already know Debra, who began working part-time in the Concordia Library system in 1984 as a stack attendant in the Norris Library. After leaving Concordia to work for a time in the McGill Physical Sciences Library, she returned to Concordia in 1986. Since then she has worked in the Norris Media Centre, the Processing Department of Technical Services, and more recently, here, at the Science & Engineering Library. She initially came to us as a replacement stack attendant, and is presently a request clerk replacing Ciaran Hopkins who is filling a temporary position in Government Publications. However, Debra will be vacating this temporary position in the very near future for a permanent, full-time stack attendant position at SEL.

Not only have you likely seen Debra in one of the several library positions she has occupied over the last seven years, it is quite possible you have seen her, along with SEL's Liz Winiarz, at a table during the annual Concordia craft fair that has been held in the Hall Building just before Christmas each year. Debra, a nature enthusiast and craftsperson, combines both her love of nature and her artistic talent to produce beautiful handmade objects. Debra is very aware of the natural environment in which she lives and she successfully translates this knowledge through her craftwork.

Debra generously shares this knowledge with those around her by regularly decorating the austere concrete surroundings of SEL's staff areas with beautiful handpicked flowers in summertime, or a bright orange pumpkin and colorful leaves in the fall. And of course there are always the little homemade edible goodies that come our way all year long. Having Debra with us at SEL is a treat for us all.

Shirley Fewster

FORTHCOMING SEASONAL EVENTS

***December 13th 1990**

A CHRISTMAS AUCTION!!!
An auction to benefit the Gazette Christmas Fund is being sponsored by the Norris Reference Department on Thursday the 13th in the Norris Conference room (4th floor) starting at 12 noon.

Admission - $0.25!
Door prizes!
Preview - 10:00am-10:45am same day

The deadline for bringing in items you wish to donate for the auction is Monday the 10th of December. A list of these items will be sent to each of the libraries before the 13th.

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As resources are somewhat limited, attendees are requested by the auctioneer to bring plenty of small bills and change, and leave the "plastic" at home!

Contact: The Autioneer, Elaine Bruce (7689) or Nancy Yen (7682) for further information.

***December 19th 1990**

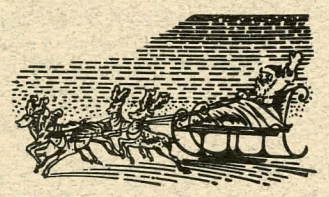
All staff are invited by the Library Administration to a **Christmas Party** at 3:00pm in the Faculty Club of the Hall Building.

Just a reminder!
FOR THE NEXT ISSUE

Contributions are always welcome. Deadline for publishing in the next issue is **January 15th**. Just leave your signed articles or suggestions for newsworthy items with any member of the ed. board. Nicest for us, but not essential, would be your idea or story on a diskette in WordPerfect 4.2, accompanied by a hard copy. Just be sure your name is on it, and we'll return the diskette to you. Thanks!

NEWS FROM YOUR SEL-MATES

This being the season for holiday preparations, including craft sales, we give special mention to two of **SEL'S CRAFTY PEOPLE**, Debra Palmer and Liz Winiarz. Both are talented creators of handcrafted items and have collaborated in several craft shows in recent weeks where their gift items and decorations have been sold to smart shoppers. We are giving you a profile of Debra in this issue of **BIBLIONews**, and Liz has also found time to contribute an article to this issue, so both are in our spotlight.



'Rhyming Reserves' gave **Satwant Sihota** a few chuckles not long ago at the Circulation Desk. When a Mr. Dao presented his I.D. to get class notes on reserve for a course given by both Profs. Tao and Pao, the rhyming coincidence was worth a WOW!! (or, in this case, a WAO?)

Our sympathies go out to Satwant who received news that her father in India had passed away earlier in November.

We'll all be interested to see what comes out of the giant crate that has arrived from Minolta, and is supposed to contain a brand new microform reader-printer for SEL. It looks as if we're getting the super family size model, but as long as it works, we will be happy. It does get tiresome explaining to students why their 20 cent photocopies are illegible nine times out of ten.

CONFUSED ABOUT THE NORRIS CONFERENCE ROOM?

The Norris Library has acquired a new conference room! Indeed, room 703 is a spacious, bright and pleasant carpeted room with good acoustics. You can reserve room 703 for your meetings by calling Donna Reid at 7694 or Natalie Kaloust at 7698. The other room, Norris 422, is now designated as the orientation room.
It is used primarily for orientation sessions presented to library users. When the room is not booked for orientation

sessions, it can certainly accommodate meetings, gatherings, and so forth. For reservation for room 422, please call the assistant at the information desk, Media Centre, local 7714.

It is no longer sufficient to call a meeting in the Norris conference room. May we suggest when scheduling such a meeting, that you specify the room number.

A NEW IDEA FOR NEW ACQUISITIONS

From Elizabeth Winiarz

When asked to write about one of the most memorable things I saw during my sabbatical year, the first thing that leapt to mind was a system used at M.I.T. in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology is very aware of the need to be at the cutting edge of research and the library tries to remove as many barriers to information access as possible. At Concordia, as well as at other institutions, we have learned to live with cataloguing backlogs. Even though public service librarians can request rush handling for items which are needed immediately, the process involves up to a week, and, presumably, some other item loses its place in line when a priority item is rushed through.

At M.I.T., during the summer of 1989 the libraries had an online GEAC catalogue named Barton. As soon as a book was received it was entered in the system as a brief record and assigned a 5-digit PRE-CAT number instead of a call number. This PRE-CAT number became its access number, shelving number, circulation number..... Each library had a small area of shelving similar to our "new book" display area, where PRE-CATS were shelved. Not much space was needed for the very-recently-arrived PRE-CATS since students and faculty generally hovered like hawks around the area and borrowed everything in sight.

The PRE-CAT books circulated like any others and every week the cataloguing department recalled from each library a certain number of items according to the workload which they could handle. Any PRE-CAT items which were circulating when recalled for cataloguing would have a request placed on them and would eventually be catalogued when returned.

There are many advantages to such a system. Firstly, all items are available for circulation and identification in the public online catalogue within two or three days of being received. Secondly, the space required for the cataloguing department is minimal as items are not kept there for any great length of time. Thirdly, workload can be adjusted to accommodate vacation time or staff shortages -- fewer items are recalled to be catalogued during such weeks. I hope that when Concordia succeeds in acquiring an online catalogue such a system could be considered. It impressed me very much, pleased the library users, and did not appear to be difficult to administer.

HELENA WORKING ON W.I.L.U.

As some of you already know, the Concordia University Libraries are hosting the 20th Annual Workshop on Instruction in Library Use (W.I.L.U) in May of 1991 at the

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Loyola Campus. Helena Gameiro, one of Vanier Library's very energetic reference librarians, is the Workshop's Coordinator.

She joined W.I.L.U.'s Steering Committee in 1988 as Concordia's representative. The membership of this Committee consists of nine librarians representing colleges and universities from Quebec and Ontario.

As this year's Coordinator, Helena has been very, very busy. She's been working at two levels. At the Steering Committee level, her main responsibility is the coordination and planning of the Workshop's programme, i.e., selecting the theme and topics to be presented, as well as, convening the speakers. At another level, she is also chairing the Local Arrangements Committee. This committee is made up of librarians from Concordia, McGill, and John Abbott College. It is responsible for making all the necessary arrangements regarding accommodation, social events, exhibits, and fund-raising....just to name a few!!!

When asked how she sees her role in organizing this event, she says she feels like, "...the conductor of an orchestra in that the conductor makes sure each individual instrument plays at the right time and that all instruments together play the music in unison."

As Helena is dashing about coordinating/conducting this event, she promises more information on the Workshop will be forthcoming. Let's watch for it!!!

L. Vileno

VANIER'S COLLECTION DEPARTMENT: A LOOK FROM WITHIN

Vanier's Collection Department is unique by virtue both of the services it offers and of the employees who work in it. What do we do up there and who are we?

At the Serials Desk information and assistance are provided specifically for the microform and periodical collections. This includes help with the microfilm equipment, which students often find themselves entangled in. We offer the more business-like journals such as Newsweek and Forbes; nevertheless, Rolling Stone magazine featuring Prince and Madonna strives for its statistical place among them. With exams just around the corner, the serials desk is hopping. You will discover that we do our utmost to find what it is that you need.

Collections also maintains the library material. By this I mean shelving and repairing books. Being a shelver makes it unnecessary to take out a fitness membership. Our muscles are bulging just from our daily routine.

Each of the employees in collections indulges in a secret passion outside of work; these activities contribute to our uniqueness as a group. Margaret Robertson, our supervisor, is an avid hiker and cyclist. Her trips are the real thing, with pitched tents and stars above. John Blyth is our serials clerk. His fascination lies in the world of mechanics and locomotion. If trains are your thing, this is your man. Anne Corbin is the microforms clerk. She sings with the Montreal Jubilation Gospel Choir, but we think that Rap is

her true love in music. Nick D'Onofrio is keyboard player. He performs with New Generation, an up-and-coming new band. Claude Hebert is a professional sports trainer. He'll be in England this month to coach Canadian weightlifters who are contending for their titles. Shelley Blackman is our literary figure. She is always loaded down with 19th century and modern day poets. Myself, I am a painter and I am trying to get my work out of my studio and into the galleries.

Each of us sees the world through different eyes. Drop by and see us: we can help you find the journal or book that will help you see further into the world of your own.

Thea Jones

WHO'S WHERE

This list, drawn up with the help of ASO, covers the Staff Establishment as of November 15, 1990.

Norris Library
Stacks
Maria Jodoin has moved into a permanent position as Stack Attendant.

Sophie Mital is acting as Stack Attendant until May 31, 1991. She is replacing **Shiva Khatibi**.

Gail Bourgeois began work as a seasonal employee on November 15.

Circulation
George Brunetti is acting as Circulation Clerk, replacing **Robert Black**.

Government Publications
Brenda Fewster began a permanent position as Clerk-Typist on November 12, 1990.

Inter-Library Loans
Dolly Shinhat-Ross has resigned while on leave of absence, her position in the Advancement Office having been made permanent. Best of luck to Dolly!

Vanier Library
Circulation
John Barrett has taken on the position of Circulation Clerk.

Technical Services
Acquisitions
Mireille Venne is unfortunately on long-term sick leave until the last week of November.

On November 3, **Shirley McGregor** began work as a seasonal employee in Ordering and Receiving.

A LETTER TO THE EDITORS

I am glad Caroll Paradis sent me a copy of the newsletter because although the Fine Arts Slide Library, like the Guidance Library, is not part of the University Libraries, I am part of the Librarians. Lack of communication is even more of a problem here than in the various libraries in the Library system because of our physical and organizational separation from our colleagues.
I am looking forward to receiving further copies of the newsletter and perhaps contributing to it. Thank you again for remembering the Slide Library exists.

Linda Bien - Slide Librarian

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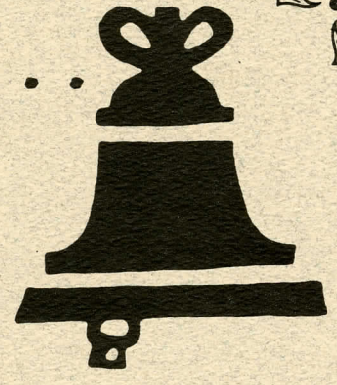
recycled paper

Seasons Greetings from...



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